REMARKS

Claims 1-3 and 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by applicant admitted prior art (AAPA). Claims 4, 6, and 7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over AAPA in view of Demos (US 5,737,027). Claim 5 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over AAPA in view of Demos (US 5,737,027) in further view of Bernstein (US 6,480,231). Claim 8 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over AAPA in view of Demos (US 5,737,027) in further view of Miller (US 5,060,286).

1. Rejection of claims 1-3 and 9 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b):

Claims 1-3 and 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by applicant admitted prior art (AAPA) for reasons of record, as recited on pages 2-3 of the above-indicated Office action.

Response:

Claims 1-9 directed towards a digital camera device have all been cancelled and are no longer in need of consideration. New claims 10-18 directed towards a method of processing images using a digital camera are explained below.

3. Introduction to new claims 10-18:

New claims 10-18 are drafted to recite the present invention method of processing images using a digital camera. Claim 10 recites a method for processing images that is patentably distinct from the AAPA. For convenience, a copy of new claim 10 is repeated below, with boldface font used for emphasis:

"10 (new): A method for processing images using a digital camera, comprising:

capturing n pixels of raw image information, each pixel having m bits of intensity information for only one color selected from a group of at least three component colors so that the raw image information comprises n×m bits;

processing the raw image information into initial image information based

on the intensity information of the selected color and not based on the intensity information of other component colors, the initial image information comprising n×m bits;

compressing the n×m bits of the initial image information into r bits of secondary image information, wherein r is less than n×m;

storing the secondary image information in a frame buffer of at least r bits;

decompressing the r bits stored in the frame buffer to provide tertiary image information; and

processing the tertiary image information to generate processed image information comprising a plurality of pixels, each pixel of the processed image information providing intensity information for each color in the group of at least three component colors."

Claim 10 is a substantial duplicate of original claim 1. The limitation of claim 10 in boldface font is added to the limitations of claim 1, and is explained below.

As described in paragraph [0022] of the present invention, the intra-pixel processing system 71 utilizes color intensity information of only one of the three component colors for performing corrections to the raw image information. Since only one of the component colors is utilized for performing corrections, the correction process generates one third of the initial image information that would be generated if the intensity of all three component colors were used for performing corrections.

As explained in paragraph [0006], the applicant admitted prior art (AAPA) utilizes intensity information for three component colors of the raw image data when processing raw data. That is, intensity information for each of the red, blue, and green colors (for example) is provided to the pre-processing system 4 for creating image frame data. The consequence of this is that the image frame data is three times the size of the raw image data

In summary, the claimed method uses the intensity information of only one component color for processing the image data. Not only does this decrease the resulting file size, but it also reduces and simplifies the necessary calculations.

Therefore, the AAPA does not teach the limitation of the new claim 10 in which only the intensity information of one selected component color is used for processing the raw image information into initial image information, and in which the intensity information of other component colors is not used. In addition, this limitation is not taught or suggested in any of the Demos, Bernstein, or Miller patents. For these reasons, new claim 10 is patentably distinct from the cited prior art.

Claims 11-18 are substantial duplicates of original claims 2-9. No new matter is introduced through new claims 10-18. Claims 11-18 should be allowed if claim 10 is allowed. Acceptance of new claims 10-18 is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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